Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph on lines 16-23 of page 5 with the following:

In various embodiments, the contacting of the sample with a GIP occurs either *in vitro*, *ex vivo*, or *in vivo*. In other embodiments, the GIP is a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7 and 13. In still other embodiments, the GIP is a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence X_{AA1}-X_{AA2}-X_{AA3}-X_{AA4}-X_{AA5}-X_{AA6}-X_{AA7}-X_{AA8}-X_{AA9}-X_{AA10}-X_{AA11} (SEQ ID NO:14) wherein X_{AA1} is Thr, Leu, or Ser; X_{AA2} is Gly or Pro; X_{AA3} is Phe or His; X_{AA4} is Ser, Thr, Gly, or His; X_{AA5} is Val or Ile; X_{AA6} is Lys, Arg, Asn, or Ser; X_{AA7} is Asp or Ser; X_{AA8} is [[Isl]] Ile or Leu; X_{AA9} is Leu; X_{AA10} is Asp, Asn, Ser, or Gly; and X_{AA11} is Leu or Arg.

Please replace the paragraph on lines 20-25 of page 6 with the following:

In a further aspect, the invention involves a peptide less than 400 amino acids in length that includes the amino acid sequence X_{AA1}-X_{AA2}-X_{AA3}-X_{AA4}-X_{AA5}-X_{AA6}-X_{AA7}-X_{AA8}-X_{AA9}-X_{AA10}-X_{AA11}, (SEQ ID NO: 14) wherein X_{AA1} is Thr, Leu, or Ser; X_{AA2} is Gly or Pro; X_{AA3} is Phe or His; X_{AA4} is Ser, Thr, Gly, or His; X_{AA5} is Val or Ile; X_{AA6} is Lys, Arg, Asn, or Ser; X_{AA7} is Asp or Ser; X_{AA8} is Ile or Leu; X_{AA9} is Leu; X_{AA10} is Asp, Asn, Ser, or Gly; and X_{AA11} is Leu or Arg.

Please insert the enclosed sequence listing into the specification after page 95 but before page 96.